



# Florida Department of Health Miami-Dade County

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# Our Challenge

The Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County protects our community from a wide range of public health threats such as HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, and other communicable diseases. Our activities include identifying health risks; maintaining a safe and healthful environment; detecting, investigating and preventing the spread of disease; promoting healthy lifestyles; and informing the public on health issues.

Our broad approach to public health spans environmental health to family planning, refugee health to immunizations and nutrition for women, and infants and children to the prevention of chronic diseases.

We also participate in disaster planning and facilitate the staffing of shelters for people with special health care needs in the event of hurricanes or other disasters. Further, we maintain the county's vital records of births and deaths, develop school health projects and educate the public regarding healthy behaviors such as avoiding tobacco use, injury prevention and more.

We have three full service locations – in the northern, central and southern regions of the county – and operate other health clinics that serve specific local areas.

We have received the Governor's Sterling Award three times (2002, 2006 and 2012) for significant improvement and performance excellence, demonstrating our commitment to the health and safety of the communities we serve.

# Vision-Mission-Core Values

## Vision

*Our desired future state*

To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

## Mission

*What we do*

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, & community efforts

## Core Values

*The shared beliefs that define our culture and foster loyalty*

### **I**nnovation

We search for creative solutions and manage resources wisely.

### **C**ollaboration

We use teamwork to achieve common goals & solve problems.

### **A**ccountability

We perform with integrity & respect.

### **R**esponsiveness

We achieve our mission by serving our customers & engaging our partners.

### **E**xcellence

We promote quality outcomes through learning and continuous performance improvement.



## A Sterling Organization

The Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County has been awarded the Governor's Sterling Award for performance excellence three times (2002,2006,2012). Since 1997, our organization has implemented the Sterling Criteria for Organizational Performance Excellence as the basic framework of its quality improvement initiative. The Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County is in the advanced stages of building a fact-based performance improvement system and has made considerable progress in the areas of Leadership, Strategic Planning, Customer Focus, Measurement, Analysis and Knowledge Management, Human Resource Focus, and Process Management.

Our organization uses a systematic process to develop new services and mechanisms to enhance customer satisfaction and service. Process and outcome measures are utilized to manage core and support processes. We train the workforce in process management techniques in order to improve outcomes and achieve greater efficiency.

We are proud of our achievements in key areas that impact the health of Miami-Dade County residents. These accomplishments have been made while attaining a 99% customer satisfaction rating and an employee satisfaction rating above the state average. Although there are many opportunities and challenges that confront the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County in achieving its mission of protecting, promoting and improving the health of our community, we are constantly raising the bar by setting high standards for excellence.

The Sterling model has been an invaluable tool in our quality journey and it will continue to be so in the future.



## From the Mayor

Dear Friends and Residents:

It's with great pleasure that I join the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County in presenting its Annual Report 2012.

Miami-Dade County government is proud to have partnered with the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County in various health initiatives that benefit our community, residents and visitors.

The Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department as well as other government agencies have worked and supported the Health Department in bringing to fruition innovative and original efforts to make our community healthier and safer. We are delighted by our participation and implementation of Make Healthy Happen Miami, an initiative that encourages our residents to exercise more and use our beautiful parks and open spaces to their benefit. We also support this project through farmers' markets and better, healthier nutrition in our public schools.

We will continue partnering and supporting the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, its leaders and employees in their quest to make Miami-Dade County a better and healthier community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Gimenez". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "G" and a trailing flourish.

Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor



## From the State Surgeon General

To the Citizens of Miami-Dade County:

As Florida's State Surgeon General, I'm pleased to join the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County in presenting the 2012 Annual Report.

The Florida Department of Health works hard to improving access to health care and the different preventive services we provide to the communities we serve, from disease control to environmental health.

We want to congratulate the leaders and employees of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County for the wonderful results they have achieved after implementing the Make Healthy Happen Miami initiative.

Working closely with community partners, local organizations and volunteers we promote healthy lifestyles and better nutrition for all Floridians.

I encourage leaders and employees of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County to continue working for the well-being of their community and strive for excellence in all their endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John H. Armstrong MD". The signature is fluid and cursive.

JOHN H. ARMSTRONG, MD, FACS  
State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health



## From the Administrator

To the Community:

It's an honor for me to present the Annual Report 2012 to our community. These pages compile not only the achievements of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, but they also pay tribute to the hard work of our team members, because they make possible every outcome and success of ours.

Public health is serious business and every year we accept the challenge of protecting our residents and visitors from diseases and natural disasters.

Our programs provide needed preventive services that range from disease control to environmental health. Immunizations, nutrition for women, infants and children, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases control and prevention are part of the things we do each day to make our community safer and healthier.

I'm very proud of our Make Healthy Happen Miami initiative and its results. Physical activity, healthier lifestyles, better nutrition in our schools and homes are part of our daily language, and we have managed to make that a reality in our communities by working with the local government and other partners.

As 2013 unfolds we will continue striving for excellence in what our team members do best: protect our towns and cities from diseases and make Miami-Dade a better and healthier place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lillian Rivera". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Lillian Rivera, RN, MSN, PhD  
Administrator / Health Officer  
Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade



# Community and Family Health

## Immunization Services

### *Partnering for Success*

The immunization program provides immunizations for the residents and visitors of Miami-Dade County. The program serves children and adults, with one clinic specializing in travel vaccines. We work with numerous community partners including Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the Board of County Commissioners and the Department of Children and Families to facilitate access to immunizations. In 2012, we administered over 55,000 vaccines to 18,000 children and 7,000 vaccines to 4,500 adults.

The immunization program, in collaboration with the School Health Program and Miami-Dade County Public Schools, worked to improve the immunization rates of schooled-aged children through education and outreach. Interventions were targeted at private providers, daycare providers, school nurses and other community members. These continuous efforts improve the rates of children who have received age appropriate vaccinations and lower the spread of vaccine preventable illnesses.





## School Health

### *Bringing Health to Students*

The Miami-Dade County Public School System (M-DCPS) is the 4th largest school district in the nation and the largest in the state of Florida. In collaboration with M-DCPS, The Children's Trust (TCT) and other community partners, the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County School Health Program provides school health services that protect and promote the health of the students during their school years, Pre-K through 12th grade.

Throughout the 2011-2012 school year, 35,461 health conditions were identified through the review of students' emergency information records, physical assessments or physician's diagnosis on medication forms, and 765,395 visits were made to the health room, 85,032 medication doses were administered and, 771,234 health services were provided to students.

In response to the growing health needs of students, our program continues to provide services that meet student's health needs. Our goal is to ensure students are healthy, ready to learn and prepared to make lifelong choices that have positive outcomes. These can be accomplished with the support of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, The Children's Trust and other caring partners in the community who have pledged to safeguard the physical and mental health well-being of children.



## Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

### *Helping Families*

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) improves the health and nutrition of participating families, reducing health care costs. Eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women, infants and children under age 5 receive the benefits of supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding education and support, and screening and referrals to other health, welfare and social services.

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade (DOH-Miami-Dade) WIC staff strive to provide excellent customer service so participants are comfortable and open to asking and discussing nutrition and breastfeeding questions. Our clinics are staffed with Registered Dietitians, International Board Certified Lactation Consultants, and breastfeeding peer counselors.

DOH-Miami-Dade WIC makes it easy to get help. The WIC trilingual

appointment/information line (786) 336-1300 answers 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and provides appointments Monday thru Saturday at 16 locations throughout the county so working families have access to our services. Breastfeeding assistance is available through a 24 hour line (786) 336-1336.

In fiscal year 2011/12 the DOH-Miami-Dade WIC Program served over 118,000 women, infants and children. Our clients received more than 58 million dollars in healthy foods, including low fat milk, eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grain breads and low sugar, high iron cereals.

## Women's Health and Preventive Services

### *Healthier Families*

The Women's Health and Preventive Services (WHPS) program consists of seven sub-programs, all of which aim to improve the health and well-being of Miami-Dade County residents and visitors. WHPS provides services in the fields of family planning, dental care, cancer prevention and detection and urgent care.

### **Family Planning**

The Family Planning program, the largest of the seven sub-programs, saw more than 25,000 women, providing over 200,000 total services during the last fiscal year. The program has six strategically located clinics in the county that offer pre and post conception services, Sexually Transmitted Infection and contraception services to men and women of reproductive ages. The increase in clients over the previous year resulted in the development of a new appointment scheduling system that improves access to services while reducing client wait times.

### **MOMmobile**

The MOMmobile is a travelling, full service van that provides prenatal and post partum nursing care. Clients of the MOMmobile live in the southern part of Miami-Dade County, are of low-income and uninsured. Last year, the MOMmobile saw over 2,500 women and provided 36,358 services.

### **The Family Planning Medicaid for Today's Woman**

The Family Planning Medicaid for Today's Woman is a waiver program managed through the Department of Health and provides women who have recently lost Medicaid coverage with access to family planning services. The Waiver lasts up to two years and covers all services provided at the family planning clinics. Last year, over 5,000 waiver applications were mailed to women who qualify for the program and a total of 500 returned applications were processed.

### **Seals on Wheels Mobile Dental Program**

Children in 2nd and 7th grade residing in Florida City and Homestead receive dental services through our mobile dental unit at select elementary schools throughout the school year. The van offers sealant and preventive dental services and last year provided over 6,000 services to these children.



### **Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program**

Since 1996 the Florida Breast and Cervical Early Detection Program has been providing breast and cervical cancer screening to women aged 50-64 who are low-income and uninsured. Each year the program increases its provider network and number of clients served. The program now has over 30 participating sites and screened over 800 women last year.

### **Screen for Life Colorectal Cancer Control Program**

Now in its fourth year, the Screen for Life Colorectal Cancer Control Program offers colorectal cancer screening to average risk men and women aged 50-64 who are low-income and uninsured. The program doubled its provider network last year to four participating clinics, allowing the program to screen up to 800 clients per year.

### **Department of Health Fast Track Clinic**

The Fast Track Clinic provides primary medical services to clients diverted from Jackson Memorial Hospital's Emergency Department. In addition to tending to their immediate medical needs, the program also educates clients on proper emergency care usage and assists them with finding a medical home. Last year the Fast Track Clinic served over 1,700 clients.

# Protecting the Community

## Epidemiology and Disease Control

### *Vigilance Against Communicable Diseases*

The primary function of the Office of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Immunization Services (EDC-IS) is to protect & promote the health of our community through prevention and preparedness. This is accomplished by monitoring and controlling communicable diseases such as food-borne and water-borne illnesses, performing active and passive disease surveillance, investigating disease outbreaks, providing health education and conducting public health research. EDC-IS also provides immunization services and vaccine-related education to the public to eliminate vaccine-preventable diseases in Miami-Dade County.

EDC-IS managed over 6,000 cases of illnesses and investigated and controlled 32 disease outbreaks in 2012.

Our goals are to:

- Conduct surveillance activities to ensure timely response to reportable diseases, unexpected outbreaks or unusual events
- Recommend proper control measures for communicable diseases and respond to public health issues and emergencies
- Collect, analyze and disseminate public health data of interest and strengthen public health capacity through research, consultation and training
- Provide support to health care providers in the management of diseases that are of public health importance





## Vital Records

### *Fast Track to Accurate Records*

The Office of Vital Records issues birth, death and fetal death certificates in Miami-Dade County. In 2012, 31,349 birth certificates were issued in Miami-Dade County.

A total of 17,992 death certificates, including 147 fetal deaths, were issued by the Office of Vital Records.

In 2012, Florida Vital Statistics accomplished one of its most ambitious projects, the implementation of the Electronic Death Certificate, that has allowed the entire registration process to be reduced from several weeks to just a few days.

At our three county-wide locations, we provided services to more than 75,000 clients in 2012.





vending machines in 25 Miami-Dade County Parks.

- Enhancement of two local farmers markets and implementation of five farmers markets impacting approximately 816,257 community members in the targeted zip codes.

### Healthy Start

The Healthy Start Program has worked closely with community providers to reduce infant mortality and the number of low birth weight babies, and improve health and developmental outcomes. By the end of 2012, the program processed 31,551 prenatal and 32,535 postnatal screenings and offered services to at-risk women, infants, children, and fathers. Services included outreach, care coordination, childbirth education, parenting education and support, nutrition counseling, psychosocial counseling, and tobacco education and cessation.

### Tobacco Prevention & Control

The Tobacco Prevention & Control program is dedicated to working with the community in developing policies and programs that will reduce the use of tobacco products. The program has been able to work on the following initiatives and some of the outcomes include:

- More than 15 resolutions were passed by municipalities in support of banning the sale of flavored tobacco products. In addition, one ordinance banning the sale of flavored tobacco products was passed by the City of South Miami. The Tobacco-Free workgroup was also able to advocate for the strengthening of the current tobacco product placement ordinance within Miami-Dade County.
- The Miami-Dade County Public School System is offering tobacco cessation services to employees and students.
- The Tobacco-Free Workgroup has sponsored the tobacco prevention summit held in Hialeah every year. Each year we have seen an increase in the number of participants. This year, more than 1,000 participants attended the event.

### Worksite Wellness

The Worksite Wellness (WW) Team focuses on promoting health and well-being and preventing chronic illnesses in the community by increasing the number of worksites offering a comprehensive worksite wellness program to employees. Healthy People 2020 recognizes the workplace as an ideal setting for promoting healthy behaviors such as healthy eating and physical activity among adults. The WW Team currently provides free worksite wellness technical assistance to local organizations in the form of consultations, presentations, trainings, toolkits and other resources.





## Tuberculosis Control and Prevention

### Stop TB in my Lifetime

The Tuberculosis Control and Prevention Program (TB Program) works to identify, treat, and prevent the spread of tuberculosis disease in Miami-Dade County. This is accomplished through the operation of clinical, investigative, surveillance, community partners' education and outreach services.

The TB Program has successfully reduced the number of TB cases in the county over the last 10 years. Cases are down from a high of 257 in 2002, to 118 in 2012, which represents a 54% decrease.

Our partnership with Camillus House contributed to providing housing for TB patients that are no longer a threat to the community to complete treatment.

We continue to treat co-infected TB and HIV patients collaboratively with Jackson Memorial Hospital and provide radiological services to the inmates of the five county jails.

Since the closing of A.G. Holley Hospital in Lantana, some of the complicated TB cases that would have required hospitalization are now managed by the TB program.

Our collaboration with local hospitals, private providers and Infection Control Practitioners contributes to timely reporting of the TB suspects/cases, which is critical to successful treatment of patients and control of the spread of TB infection. Our program manages and treats 95 percent of all reported cases of Tuberculosis in Miami-Dade County.

The Tuberculosis Control and Prevention Program has three clinics where 21,964 clients received over 56,128 TB related services in 2012.



## Clinical Laboratory Services

*Over 85,000 Patients Served*

Laboratory medicine plays a vital role in the delivery of health care services, helping to prevent and treat diseases by detecting unknown health problems, aiding in diagnosis and treatment of existing conditions.

In 2012, more than 290,000 tests were performed for patients that visited STD, TB, Women's Health clinics and the Refugee Health Center. Over 125,000 of those were done during the patients' visits. A new test, the QuantiFERON-TB Gold Test was incorporated into the Refugee Health Assessment Program. This test is aimed at diagnosing *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection, including latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) and tuberculosis (TB) disease. About 16,000 newly arrived refugees were tested in 2012.

We continue our collaboration with the University of Miami in research projects to reduce the burden of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

## Refugee Health

### Health Assessment Services

The Refugee Health Assessment Program (RHAP), the largest of its kind in the United States, provides health assessment services to an average of 18,000 refugees each year.

The RHAP protects the health of the general population in Miami-Dade County by identifying and treating newly arriving refugees with communicable diseases, and reducing and/or eliminating health-related barriers that adversely impact their resettlement into our community. These objectives are accomplished by providing an initial health assessment to refugees to identify health conditions, make referrals to healthcare providers if treatment is needed, and prevent the spread of any communicable diseases.

In FY 2011-2012, the RHAP provided 18,452 health assessments, which accounted for 94% of all newly-arriving refugees, 4% higher than the national standard. Additionally, the health assessments were provided in an average of 26 days after arrival, 64 days less than the national standard of 90 days.

During FY 2011-2012, we achieved the highest levels of performance in the State of Florida and received a 96% customer satisfaction for the services provided.

The Initial Health Assessment is a comprehensive assessment of newly arrived refugees. It includes a follow-up of conditions identified overseas, an evaluation and diagnostic services to determine health status and identify health problems, referral for follow-up of identified health problems, education on local health care services and linkage with primary health care services.

### Accessibility (%) FY 2011-2012

Percentage of newly arriving refugees that received health assessment within 90 days of arrival	94	Best FL County Peer	92%
		FL State Total	92%
		National Standard	≥90%

**Accessibility:** Access to health assessment services to at least 90% of newly arriving refugees

### Timeliness (Average in days) FY 2011-2012

Average in days between date of arrival and health assessment	26	Best FL County Peer	32
		FL State Total	33
		National Standard	<90

**Timeliness:** Health assessment provided within 90 days of arrival

### Services Utilization FY 2011-2012

Number of refugee health assessments	18,452
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Laboratory Tests Performed (Screening)	159,613
Vaccine doses administered (Disease Prevention)	106,142
Health Education and Health Promotion Activities	18,537

### Customer Satisfaction FY 2011-2012

Very satisfied and satisfied with the services received <i>Customer Satisfaction Survey: sample size: 390 / CI: 93.1 – 97.2</i>	96%
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Source: DOH-Miami-Dade. Refugee Health Assessment Program. 2012

# Public Health Preparedness

## Coping with Emergencies

In recent years the Public Health Preparedness (PHP) program has been working diligently to promote a preparedness culture in our community and create the proper mechanisms to respond effectively to public health emergencies and disasters, natural or man-made.

Our City Readiness Initiative has been recognized as one of the best practice models on the national level and has been emulated by others. Meanwhile, our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) has worked hard recruiting community volunteers who have accepted responsibilities and challenges for different types of emergency situations.

The MRC is currently the second largest in the state of Florida with thousands of volunteers, which include physicians, nurses, and other health professionals that help the community during large scale emergencies.

The Hospital Preparedness Consortium has become stronger as community hospitals unite to discuss and strategically prepare against disasters.

We continue to work closely with the County Office of Emergency Management in planning and preparing to provide countywide health and medical services as emergencies emerge. Through the commitment and collaboration of hospital representatives, growth and coordination of emergency preparedness response and activities we continue to prepare to help the 2.5 million residents and 12 million annual visitors in the event of an emergency.

We have also established a secondary emergency command center at the Health District Center that includes innovative technological tools for emergency preparedness. This command center supports the Public Health Preparedness role as the county health and medical lead during emergencies and disasters.

# Environmental Health and Engineering

## Environmental Safety

### *Working to Prevent Hazards*



The division of Environmental Health and Engineering is responsible for protecting the community from all environmental hazards. From July 2011 to June 2012, Environmental Health staff inspected 441 sanitary nuisance complaints, conducted 24,105 facility inspections and 1,998 environmental quality investigations, and obtained 5,744 water samples for local laboratory testing and analysis. Additionally, a great emphasis was placed on beach monitoring and drinking water quality. Approximately 8,000 beach samples were collected and tested. Safe drinking water was provided for more than 2.2 million residents because of Environmental Health continuous efforts and regulation.

Environmental Health and Engineering continued its active role last year in education and research by advancing its partnerships and collaboration with universities, regulatory agencies and other organizations.

Financially, Environmental Health and Engineering took a more aggressive approach than the previous year with revenue collections. The program generated approximately \$3,500,000 in revenue from local and state fees, and federal grants, which accounted for an increase of 17% from last year. Currently, only 6% of our total operating budget is supported by the State's general revenue funds. Our goal is to achieve a budget that is totally supported by our fees.





### **Environmental Outreach**

The Environmental Health and Engineering Division is currently working with the University of Miami School of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering to develop and deploy a statewide beach management survey. The survey is aimed at identifying best beach management practices that are correlated with constant good water quality. Additionally, the survey will assist in making recommendations for beach managers and operators to adopt these practices.

# Community Relations

## Office of Communication and Legislative Affairs

### *Informing the Community*

The Office of Communication and Legislative Affairs continues its ongoing task of exploring innovative ways of promoting public health to the community in an effective and timely manner.

The strong connection we have built with local media outlets has allowed us to create a strong and supportive relationship through which we deliver information on public health and other preventive messages that achieve our goal of informing the general public.

In emergency situations, the Office of Communication and Legislative Affairs continues to serve a critical role in the emergency response of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, working closely with the Miami-Dade County Emergency Operations Center.

In addition, the Office of Communication and Legislative Affairs works in conjunction with various community partners that allow us to deliver the public health message that our community deserves.

### **Creating and Expanding Public Health Resources**

As the Office of Communication and Legislative Affairs seeks to expand public health resources, our office partners and works closely with elected and appointed officials at the local and state level.



## Volunteers Expand Reach

Our Volunteer Services program promotes access to health care for the medically underserved and uninsured population in Miami-Dade County with the help of many volunteers and partners, including physicians, dentists and health care professionals.

We have always recognized the importance of partnerships and volunteerism and the lasting working partnerships we have with individuals and private and public groups which are vital to attaining the goals and mission of the volunteer program.

During 2012, our volunteers provided services to our community valued at more than 31 million dollars. Their work helped reduce the amount and frequency of expensive emergency room visits and played a key role in controlling health care costs and minimizing the tax burden shared by the community.



# Highlights

## Employee Conference 2012

Educational presentations, team building, fun and recognition highlighted the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Annual Employee Conference. Employees gathered at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium for a day of education and employee engagement in which every program had something to showcase.

## Preventive Campaign Against Dengue Fever

A health campaign was launched in 2012 to prevent the spread of dengue fever in our community. Press releases, preventive information and several web campaigns were issued after the Department received confirmation of the first locally acquired case of dengue fever in Miami-Dade County.

## Breast Cancer Awareness

The Women's Health and Preventive Services Program celebrated National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October with activities that targeted the community at large. This collaboration of public service organizations, professional medical associations, and government agencies worked together to promote breast cancer awareness.

## Heart Walk 2012

Our Department partnered with Florida International University and other local organizations for the 2012 Heart Walk. It was an excellent opportunity to showcase and promote the Make Healthy Happen campaign, aimed at promoting healthier lifestyles, good nutrition and



physical activity. The Worksite Wellness Team promoted the event and encouraged employee participation.

### Make Healthy Happen Miami

A public health campaign was launched as part of Make Healthy Happen Miami, an initiative developed and implemented by the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County together with local partners, local government and community organizations. With messages promoting physical activity, good nutrition and farmers markets, the campaign has been visible lately in public transport and other venues throughout the county.

### Medical Reserve Corps

The Medical Reserve Corps provided medical and general support at the Miami Beach Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon in November. This national event had 29 stops throughout the country. In Miami, the 13.1 miles course started in South Beach

and featured more than six miles of oceanfront running.

### Tobacco Prevention Summit

Our Department partnered with the City of Hialeah to host the Sixth Annual Tobacco Prevention Summit, an event that took place last November at the city's Goodlet Park. The keynote speaker was Richard Bender, a former semi-professional baseball player and national spokesman for the "No Snuff" campaign.

Bender shared his powerful journey as a cancer survivor and his battle to kick the habit of chewing tobacco, and has dedicated his life to educating people about the health risks of tobacco use. The Summit brought attention to the candy-flavored tobacco products that have emerged from big tobacco companies. These new flavored tobacco products are now being used to allure youth into a lifelong tobacco addiction.

# Senior Leaders

**Lillian Rivera, RN, MSN, PhD**  
Administrator / Health Officer

**Denise West, RD, LD/N, MPH**  
Director, WIC & Nutrition

**Heather Beaton, Esq.**  
Chief Legal Counsel

**Karen Weller, RN, BSN, MBA-HSM**  
Director, Office of Community Health and Planning

**Maribel Zayas, BPA, JD**  
Financial Administrator

**Olga Connor, BA**  
Director, Office of Communication & Legislative Affairs

**Pamela Toomer, RN, BSN, MPH, NCSN**  
Director, School Health Program

**Rene Ynestroza, MBA, MSMIS**  
Senior Public Health Services Manager

**Reynald Jean, MD, MPH**  
Director, TB Program

**Samir Elmir, MS, PE, DEE, CEHP**  
Division Director, Environmental Health and Engineering

**Thomas Burns, MPH**  
Program Manager, STD

**Yesenia D. Villalta, MSN, ARNP**  
Director, Women's Health & Preventive Services

# Credits

**Rick Scott** - Governor

**Jennifer Carroll** - Lieutenant Governor

**John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS** - State Surgeon General and Secretary

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## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

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Y O U R   H E A L T H   I S   O U R   B U S I N E S S



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